

GROUP #4
HELPING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO RETURN TO THE
WORKPLACE

SUMMARY

The Deficit Reduction Act allows States to increase their assistance to persons with disabilities who wish to return to the workplace. States can apply for a “Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment” to allow the State to provide benefits to workers who have physical or mental impairments. The purpose of the demonstration will be to determine whether or how the provision of medical assistance and related services can assist a person to remain employed and independent of income assistance programs.

SWOT ANALYSIS – TOP THREE SELECTED BY SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS

Strengths

1. Strong advocacy support for “Buy-In”
2. Legislative interest
3. Build on information from previous Ticket to Work Buy-In task force

Weaknesses

1. Limited State fiscal resources
2. Fragmented approach to healthcare
3. Complicated to implement and administer

Opportunities

1. People with disabilities can save for their future
2. Higher earnings capability for people with disabilities
3. Put money back into the economy

Threats

1. Fear that costs will escalate beyond the State’s ability to afford
2. Economy
3. Inadequate infrastructure to implement

Bottom Line: This group recommends that Georgia implement a Medicaid Buy-In